

U.S. Application No. 10/613,689
Filed: July 3, 2003

SEP 13 2007

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

List of Claims:

1 – 57. (Cancelled)

58. (New) An apparatus for placing packaging material in a predetermined position relative to an array of articles conveyed by an article conveyor in a first direction of travel at a first velocity, the packaging material having erectable cells for receiving the articles, the apparatus comprising:

an erection device having means for receiving the packaging material in a collapsed condition and erecting the cells; and

feed means having means for feeding the erected packaging material from a direction substantially perpendicular to the first direction of travel of the article conveyor;

wherein said feed means is disposed at an output end of said erection device and said feed means has means for accelerating the erected packaging material to a second velocity relative to the first velocity of the article conveyor such that the erected packaging material is placed in the pre-determined position while forward motion of the array of articles is maintained.

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59. (New) The apparatus of claim 58, further comprising a control system for effecting synchronization of said erection device, said feed means and the article conveyor.